Cost of production of gas

†2909. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government oil companies are producing gas in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and gas produced by them during the past months of 2005;

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding the gas production capacity of these organisations;

(d) the maximum capacity of gas production of each of the said organisations; and

(e) the assessment of average cost of gas production in each of these organisations in 2005?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The two National Oil Companies, *viz.*, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) are producing natural gas in the country. The gas production by these companies from January to July 2005, month-wise, is as follows:

Month	Gas Production (million standard cubic metre)	
	ONGC	OIL
January 2005	1963.173	180.17
February 2005	1556.589	159.73
March 2005	1959.799	192.01
April 2005	1902.437	167.92
May 2005	1920.296	193.73
June 2005	1872.491	181.46
July 2005 (Prov.)	1887.170	193.88

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The balance recoverable reserves of gas established by ONGC and OIL, as on 1.4.2005, are 517.02 MMT and 108.96 MMT respectively.

However, the production capacity of any hydrocarbon field is dynamic, depending upon various factors including the explorable reserve base available, permitted production potential based on reservoir considerations, availability of end consumers etc. Hence, gas production capacity may increase or decrease depending on the above factors.

(e) The average cost of production of natural gas of ONGC and OIL is Rs. 2,578 and Rs. 1770 per 1000 cubic metres, respectively.

Use of heavy high sulpher crude in refineries

†2910. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by using cheap crude oil in the oil refineries of the country the increase in the cost of diesel and petrol can be checked;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what percentage heavy-high sulpher crude is being used in oil-refineries of the country as on date; and

(d) the details regarding the maximum percentage of the same being used in the other countries of the world?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Refineries are designed to process specific type of crude oils depending upon its configuration, quality of products to be produced and emission limits. Large deviations in the crude oil type can affect the processing rate adversely thus reducing the production capability of products like Diesel and Petrol. Cheap crude

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.